

Amendment No. 1 to SB1403

Bell
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 1403

House Bill No. 867*

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-5-124(a), is amended by adding the following language to the end of the subsection:

The district attorney for the judicial district in which the child was located must also receive a copy of the report provided to the legislators and may communicate with the legislators representing the child about the report and its contents or about any other otherwise confidential information that the legislators may have acquired pursuant to § 37-5-107(d).

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-406, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection (b) and redesignating the current subsection (b) and subsequent subsections accordingly:

(b) If the department receives a report of child physical abuse from a licensed medical or mental health provider or a licensed educational professional and the report indicates that the child is currently at imminent risk of further serious physical harm from the alleged perpetrator, the department must commence a local investigation immediately, regardless of the time of day or night, by making physical contact with the child, in order to give the greatest protection possible to the child's physical safety. Upon making contact with the child, the investigator shall:

- (1) Physically assess the child and document any injuries, old or new;
- (2) Assess the child's level of safety, specifically inquiring about whether the alleged perpetrator will have access to the child after the initial interview;

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(3) Develop and implement a safety plan with the child, unless the child is unable to participate due to the child's age;

(4) Determine whether the child, the child's siblings, or the current alleged perpetrator have a history of interactions with the department;

(5) Communicate to local law enforcement and the juvenile court judge with jurisdiction over the child within twenty-four (24) hours of the commencement of the investigation; and

(6) Present the results of the immediate investigation to the child protective investigation team.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.